

The Villages Shrine Club Newsletter

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2019

The newsletter will continue to focus primarily on what is upcoming, if anything, and include a calendar of events for the period covered, although it will contain important information and highlights of what has been going on.

Lastly, this, and all future newsletters, will be sent electronically to all our members to save our very limited dollars and apply them to the most important funding we do – The Shriners Hospital for Children in Tampa. The newsletter is published as well on the Villages Shrine Club web page, www.thevillagesshrineclub.org. Our Secretary, Noble Jim Chaffin, indicates we have only a handful of our members who do not have an e-mail address. All others do. If you are reading this and know of one of the few nobles who not have e-mail access, share and remind them of our meetings and events. Also, remember the above web page, www.thevillagesshrineclub.org, and to check frequently for updates and important information than can be, and is, published faster than we could ever possibly do by regular mail in years past. Also, check The Villages Daily Sun Rec news, published the Thursday before our scheduled meeting, for a reminder of the meeting, time, place and what is scheduled. The Rec news does limit our space to 50 words and must edit comments exceeding that. Our regular meeting is in the Orchid Room, Hibiscus Rec Center, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Watch for the Secretary's notice and the newsletter to send updates on the social hour menu, guest speakers and entertainment (if any).

As is the usual custom, and for the benefit of all as well as those who may have just relocated to The Villages and recently affiliated with the Shrine Club, the following is a brief biography of the PRESIDENT, First Vice President and Second, who are installed by Bahia's Potentate in January of each year are attached at the end of this newsletter.

NOTES FROM THE NEW PREZ:

At our meeting in November, we had the Potentate from Bahia, and members of his Divan, present to receive donations, as well as PR representatives from the Tampa Hospital and the Hospital's ambassador, Momo Sutton and her mother Sandy. Momo gave us a demonstration of her ability to play the violin with the arm made for her by the Hospital, as well as answer some questions from members in attendance. For those who are not aware, we gave Momo a gift card from the club in appreciation for her visit. We had a great turkey dinner and all the members provided great side dishes to accompany the meal. Thanks so much to all for their donations of both cash, to help us pay for the meal, and food to share with our brothers and sisters. Reflecting, it was a great night of both fellowship and philanthropy.

A continuing thought and reminder for all. You can purchase The Villages Club wine glasses and Masonic coins at our monthly meeting. Glasses are \$8.00 each (or a box of 6 for \$48.00) and coins are \$5.00. The sale of these commemorative items helps us pay our bills, provide programs and food at the

meetings, and NOT increase our dues. If you don't have either, think about it. Also, please remember that we have a donation jar at the beginning of the food line. When you bring food items to share, it is always appreciated, and we need everyone to know that. This donation is for monies that come directly to the Club, and again, also help pay for the food that the club purchases while not raising dues. Please remember to bring a donation for the Club and drop it in the jar. Everyone appreciates your generosity and it is important that we have enough food to share and enjoy our social hour. That is a special part of the monthly meeting.

I must always say a special thanks to all our Ladies of Al-Kora for their continued hard work in raising monies for the hospital. They are tireless attendees at the various give-back events we have sponsored, as well as their own. Their attendance at the monthly meetings and other events is what makes our club a special organization and contributes so much to making it a success.

Toy Drive – The Shrine Club took the toys that were provided by the Osceola Hill Social Club to the Hospital in Tampa on 17 December. 18 members delivered over 300 toys and gift cards from the Osceola Hills Social Club. A simple thank you seems hardly enough for their generosity and kindness. Club members and their ladies were given an extensive Hospital Tour. Seems like every time members attend a tour, they see something new and more enlightening as to what the great philanthropy of the Shrine accomplishes at its Hospitals for the children.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This calendar of events is primarily for the Villages Shrine Club and our own Al Kora ladies. Others, like Bahia, or Lake County Shrine Club, have their own information on their individual web page, which is not repeated, except as indicated below just to remind everyone.

Stated meetings for January and February 2019, of the Villages Shrine Club, are as follows:

8 January; social hour begins at 6:00 pm with the club providing a chicken dinner and members requested to bring items listed below to share.

A-E – VEGETABLE DISHES

F-J – DESSERTS

K-O – Salads

P-Z – Appetizers

Club members are asked to bring sides according to the initial of their last names as above:

8 January 2019 – Following dinner, The Villages Shrine Club will have the annual installation of officers, conducted by the Potentate of Bahia and his Divan.

12 February 2019 – stated meeting. A guest speaker is pending.

Just to set forth an agenda for the Villages Shrine Club, which may change depending on who is available as a guest speaker, the following is a listing of what normally will transpire each month during 2019. As previously stated, these events are depending on availability of a guest speaker, and meals will be announced each month:

January – Installation of officers by the Potentate Illustrious Sir Trey Rapp and members of the Divan. A chicken dinner will be provided by the Club and members are requested to bring items as listed above according to the initial of their last name.

February – Attorney Patrick Smith will talk with us about Trusts. Chili or something else

March – Irish Stew or something else. Sam Swope Memorial Charity Ride takes place this month.

April – Hot Dogs. Remember the Veterans Remembrance Day Celebration, which is open to all. Invite your friends!

May – Pizza. Don't forget the Annual Bahia Circus and the Villages Shrine Club golf tournament.

June – Ice cream, pretzels and chips. Members provide toppings.

July and August – DARK

September – Ice cream, pretzels and chips. Members provide toppings.

October – Sandwiches, chips and condiments.

November – Turkey Dinner provided by the Club. Members are asked to bring sides according to initial of their last name.

December - Heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Note: This is, again, for planning purposes only. Things may change, but this is a tentative list of things we are planning. Where it is indicated "or something else" that information will be provided to all if changed.

BAHIA Shrine temple has several events upcoming. Their website contains many more specifics about times and dates for stated meetings as well as their special events and should be checked to see if they are having any functions you are interested in, as they are not repeated here. Go to www.bahishriners.org for the Shrine Temple web site. Just so everyone knows, Bahia is not currently sending out a paper Caravan, rather, it is located on their web site. Sign up to receive all the latest information.

The Villages Masonic High Twelve Club #674 meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at La Hacienda Recreation Center, with meetings beginning at 10:45 am, and last about an hour and a half. The meetings usually have a guest speaker or entertainment. All Masons and their ladies are invited to attend. For additional information, you can contact President Merv Harris.

The Villages Masonic Lodge #394 – meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Wildwood Masonic Lodge Building, Georgia St., Wildwood, FL. A social lunch is held at 12:30 with the stated communication at 1:30. Installation of 2019 officers is 1100, 5 January 2019 at the Lodge building.

AL KORA

Al Kora events;

December 2018 – dark for the month.

First thing remember that we (Al Kora) are having a play at the Melon Patch Theatre on 23 March. We will provide more information about tickets and their availability at the January meeting. The profits of the play go to the Shriners Hospital for Children in Tampa.

Installation of The Villages Shrine Club 2019 officers will be on **8 January 2019**. As always, the Bahia Potentate, and Divan, will be invited to dinner and to perform the installation, and all ladies are always welcome.

Mark your calendar for this date also and to attend. It is always important to support the new slate of officers, meet the new Potentate and his Divan

10 January 2019 – Al Kora will have a “give back” event at Chili’s of Lady Lake. Flyers have been be passed out at The Villages Shrine Club meetings and Al Kora meetings. Mark your calendar for this 10 January 2019 event. Bring your friends and neighbors to lunch or dinner. The 20% give back from Chili’s goes to the Shriner’s Hospital for Children in Tampa, so make sure you tell everyone that and how important all fundraisers are to the continued operation of the hospital. If anyone needs a flyer, Carolyn Moynihan has some, and if you received one at the Shrine Club meeting on 11 December, you can make a copy and pass them out to friends and neighbors. You can call Carolyn Moynihan.

15 January 2019 – Board meeting at home of President Sharon Wiener

22 January 2019 – Installation of Al Kora officers for **2019** will be on at the Cottage Inn, Lady Lake, during the regularly held monthly meeting and luncheon. Husbands of the officers to be installed are welcome.

14 and 15 February 2019 – Garage Sale at the home of Sharon Wiener. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to Sharon’s after 1 January 2019. Remember, no clothes or shoes because of limited space.

19 February 2019 – Board meeting at the home of President Carolyn Moynihan.

26 February 2019 – Luncheon meeting at the Cottage Inn, Lady Lake, FL. We gather at 10:00 am, and begin the business meeting at 10:30 am, with lunch following.

Officer Biographies for The Villages Shrine Club

President Gary Gray

My original home is the Outer Banks of North Carolina, but being an Army brat, I was born in Nuremburg, Germany. After one year in Germany, my father was stationed at Fort Myer, Virginia, with the Presidential Honor Guard, where we lived for almost 10 years. After his retirement, we continued to live in Arlington, Virginia until I got married and remained in Northern Virginia area with my wife. We have 3 boys and 1 daughter and 8 Grandchildren living all over the country. I was employed as a salesman for a wholesale chemical company until I retired in 2006. I was first raised as a Master Mason here in the Villages, at the Villages Masonic Lodge #394 in 2013, and became a member of the Villages Shrine Club and Bahia Shrine in 2015, also joining the Yellow Jackets Scooter Club and lastly becoming chairman of the Shrine Club golf committee. It has been an honor to be nominated and serve as First Vice President and I look forward to many more years of fun and friendship with all my new Shriner friends and board members. It gives me great pleasure to assist in raising money to help the Shriners Hospital for Children in Tampa.

First Vice President Emmett Mills

Beginning with High School, I attended Shrine High School in Royal Oak, Michigan and graduated in 1965. After High School, I attended the University of Georgia Tech, where I was also a student athlete and received a BS in electrical engineering and later, a Master's at Oakland University.

I entered the U.S. Navy in 1967 and served until September 1972. During my time in the Navy, I served with the United States Navy SEAL Team #2 and specialized in under water demolition, as well as satellite communications. Injured in 1972, while serving in the Vietnam Campaign, I was medically retired the same year.

My Masonic career began in 1992 and was Master of my home Lodge in 1996. I joined the Valley of Detroit, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1993, and was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason in August of 2008, and am now affiliated with the Valley of Ocala. My Shrine affiliation began in 1993 in Detroit, where I am also a member of Court No. 28, Royal Order of Jesters, and upon moving to The Villages, affiliated with Bahia Shrine. I have been High Priest of my Royal Arch Chapter, Thrice Illustrious Master of the Council of Royal and Select Masons, and am a member of Priory No. 22, KYCH. I have been privileged to serve as Commander of Detroit Commandry No. 1, Knights Templar, and have been awarded the Grand Commander's Service award and shoulder cordon for first line signing of over 35 members. I served as the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Michigan, 2006/2007 and was awarded the Knight Commander of the Temple from the Grand encampment of the United States.

Additionally, I am currently serving as the Secretary of the Villages Masonic Lodge #394, and as Chairman of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States of America as the Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee, sending ordained ministers to the Holy Land as one of the Knight Templar philanthropies.

So, when not doing something Masonic related, I attempt to enjoy retirement in The Villages and play 72 holes of golf per week.

Second Vice President Larry Lace:

A brief Personal history: I was born in Cleveland Ohio in 1948, moved to Southern California in 1962, and then

to The Villages in 2012. I currently live in the Village of Pennecamp. My Masonic affiliation is as follows:

I am a member of The Villages Masonic Lodge #394, Bahia Shrine Temple, Orlando, Florida and the Scottish Rite Bodies of Ocala, Ocala, Florida. Current Marital Status: Single. I attended the following schools, receiving degrees as indicated: BS in Physics/Mathematics – University of California at Berkeley – an MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah and an ME in Engineering Management from UCLA.

I served in the Air Force Reserve, attaining the rank of Captain, from 1970 to 1977.

We will leave these biographies and comments in the newsletter for the entire time each officer is serving, with addition/new comments provided as submitted.

Note to all from me:

My contact point is indicated in the newsletter section of the web page. If you have something that is important to the members that should be published, that I missed, please send it to me. If you have any ideas on how to make the newsletter more informative, send me that also. Just click on my name (Bob Moynihan) and an e-mail will open for you. An announcement that the newsletter is available will be sent to all each time one has been published. Just go to the web page. Or come to the monthly meeting and bring your input to me personally. The Shrine Club needs someone to call our sick and distressed people at least once a month, or until they recover and report back to our members at each monthly meeting.

Noble Cliff made a motion at the Board of Directors that the recent Past President of the Villages Shrine Club and the three other Board of Directors members make up the Sickness and Distress Committee. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Lastly, to all our sick and distressed members or their ladies – everyone is thinking of you and sends their best wishes for a speedy recovery.